

Affani appointed PLO chief of staff

DAMASCUS (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat has appointed Col. Mohammad Affani as PLO chief of staff to succeed Brig. Saad Sayel, who was killed in an ambush in eastern Lebanon last week, PLO officials said Sunday. Col. Affani, is popularly known as Abu Muasem. He made his first public appearance as PLO chief of staff Saturday at the funeral near here of one of his predecessor's bodyguards who died of wounds sustained in the ambush. The PLO has blamed "Zionists and their criminal agents" for the killing of Brig. Sayel, also known as Abu Walid, a career soldier who began as a staff officer in the Jordanian army. The organisation has vowed to avenge the killing.

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Israel broadcasts interview with massacre participant

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel television Sunday night broadcast a filmed interview with a Lebanese Falangist officer who said he shot 5 Palestinians during the massacre in the Beirut camps last month and would continue to kill them until they left Lebanon. The Lebanese identified himself only as Michael, 24 years old and a graduate engineer who serves as a deputy to Elias Babeika, chief of security of the Falangist militia. Asked why children had been killed in the refugee camps, he said, "Everyone knows the Palestinians used eight-year-olds to fight and these were the ones we killed." Asked whether the Israeli army should have prevented the massacre, he replied: "Nothing could have stopped it. We were determined to kill as many of them as we could." The interview took place in the mobile television studio of Israel television in Beirut.

Falangist role emerges, page 8

! peacekeepers injured in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Two French soldiers on peacekeeping duties in Lebanon were injured Sunday when a mine exploded in Beirut's commercial district, security sources said. The sources said one of its soldiers lost a leg. About 1,500 French soldiers are serving in Beirut with U.S. Marines, Italian troops and the Lebanese army. The multi-national force is charged with restoring Lebanese government control to the city following the withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian troops and Palestinian commandos.

Papandreou to visit Kuwait next week

CUWAIT (R) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou will pay a three-day official visit to Kuwait next week, it was officially announced Sunday. Chief government spokesman Abdul Aziz Iusseini said the visit, from Oct. 6, would open wide horizons for mutual cooperation. He praised Greece's support for Arab causes, especially the Palestinian issue. Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was given a big reception when he went to Greece last month after its evacuation from Beirut following Israel's invasion of Lebanon.

Thatcher urged to expel S. Africans

ONDON (R) — The opposition Labour Party Sunday called on the British government to expel any South African diplomats found engaging in subversive activities. The party's foreign affairs spokesman, Stanley Clinton Davis, said: "The tentacles of South African economic, military and subversive activities extend thousands of miles from South Africa. They attempt coups, they murder, and they burglar and commit arson. It is clear they have now tended their clandestine activities to Britain." Mr. Davis' statement follows the sudden departure from Britain last week of a South African embassy official, which The Sunday Times newspaper has linked with allegations of South African involvement in attacks on anti-apartheid groups here.

Cyanide death toll reaches 7

HICAGO (R) — Investigators believe seven people poisoned to death by cyanide were probably the victims of a random murderer who went from shop to shop spiking bottles of a popular analgesic remedy with a lethal dative. Local and federal authorities said Sunday they were seeking on disgruntled former employees of Chicago area stores where the poisoned extra-strength tylenol (EST) capsules were sold. Doses of tylenol have been banned in the area. The Illinois attorney general's office said police were investigating an unconfirmed report that a man was arrested in a Chicago suburb in August for outfitting tylenol.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جريدة الأردن تنشر يومياً معلومات عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"



His Majesty King Hussein Sunday chairs a cabinet session which reviewed the latest flare-up in the Iran-Iraq war and developments in the Middle East (Petra photo)

King, cabinet review latest flare-up in Gulf war

Arabs are facing genuine test'

AMMAN (Petra) — "Jordan and all other Arab countries now face a genuine test for proving their credibility in implementing the Fez Arab summit resolutions," His Majesty King Hussein said here Sunday.

"These resolutions," he explained, "include measures for confronting Iran's aggression on Iraqi territory. Arab assistance and support to Iraq to enable it to confront the aggression and to continue its defense of Arab national soil".

The King, speaking at a cabinet meeting held at the Prime Min-

istry, said: "We have a national commitment towards Iraq that calls for supporting that country with all our resources as a matter of national duty and responsibility."

"Iraq," the King added, "constitutes our strategic depth, and it is indeed the main source of assistance to the Arab Nation in all its battles."

"Defending Iraq, the King stressed, "is like defending Jordan and all other parts of the Arab Homeland."

During the session, the cabinet reviewed Iran's latest offensive in

the Gulf war, and current Arab affairs as well as in Jordan's moves on the Arab and international fronts within the framework of the seven-member committee which was formed by the Fez summit.

The cabinet also reviewed developments in Lebanon and efforts being exerted to secure a withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory.

The meeting was attended by Royal Court Chief Ahmad Al Lawzi and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid ibn Shaker.

Arab League organises seminar

TUNIS (Petra) — The Arab League is organising a seminar on the role of Arab women in rural development to be held in Amman on Oct. 18, according to an announcement by the Arab League headquarters here.

It said that at the seminar, to be held at Princess Rahmeh Community Centre at Allan west of Amman, several lectures on promoting the role of women in rural regions will be given. These will tackle economic, cultural, and educational participation of women in national development plans, it said. Delegates from various Arab countries are expected to take part in the seminar.

Turkish journalist visits Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The visiting director of the privately-owned Turkish news agency (Anka) Mrs. Miserref Hekinoglu had talks here Sunday with the director of the Jordan News Agency Petra Jawad Marqa.

They discussed the prospect of launching cooperation between the two news agencies in the exchange of news.

Canadian envoy meets Ibrahim

AMMAN (J.T.) — Canada's newly appointed non-resident ambassador to Jordan, Keith Maclellan, called on Acting Foreign Minister Hassan Ibrahim Sunday and handed him a copy of his credentials.

Mr. Maclellan who arrived in Amman on Sept. 30 is replacing Mr. Theodore Arcand, who held the post since 1979.

NATO reviews East-West relations

VAL DAVID, Quebec (R) — North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) foreign ministers, meeting at a time of tension in NATO over differences on handling East-West relations symbolised by the dispute over U.S. sanctions against European firms supplying American-designed equipment for the pipeline linking Siberia and Western Europe.

Informed sources said Sunday the 16 ministers, meeting in a picturesque mountain lodge with only interpreters aiding them, had a useful discussion of East-West relations in which the dispute over equipment for the Soviet natural gas pipeline came up only inci-

identally.

The weekend talks are being held at a time of tension in NATO over differences on handling East-West relations symbolised by the dispute over U.S. sanctions against European firms supplying American-designed equipment for the pipeline linking Siberia and Western Europe.

The sources said the ministers, who normally meet for formal talks with set speeches and an agreed communiqué, appeared to welcome the new format.

They had a two-hour meeting

Saturday evening. "It appeared to be an earnest meeting and a very focused discussion," one Canadian official said.

The West Europeans have accused the U.S. of violating their sovereignty with the sanctions but are now trying to defuse the tension within the alliance, insisting that it is merely a family squabble.

The ministers' aides were kept away from all the talks which included a general discussion over dinner and bilateral talks over dessert and coffee, the Canadian official said.

The Israeli soldiers said the casualties from the attack were immediately taken by helicopter to Israel for treatment.

Lebanese police at the Aley gendarmerie station said Israeli troops moved through the town with loudspeakers telling local people to stay indoors.

"We heard a big explosion, then Israeli troops started moving through the streets and they set up road blocks," said one policeman. He said the police had not been able to go out to investigate the attack themselves.

Sudan to send troops • S. Arabia warns Iran

Iraq repulses Iranians as Arabs rally support

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq announced its forces repulsed a third Iranian attack in as many days Sunday in the central sector of the battlefield, as Sudan said it would send troops to Iraq and Saudi Arabia warned Iran of an all-out war with the entire Arab World.

The Iraqi News Agency quoted a military spokesman as saying fighting flared for two hours after Iran launched the new assault at dawn.

The spokesman said the Iraqi army forced the attackers to withdraw with heavy losses.

Bahdad Radio broadcast a military communiqué saying Iranian units attempting to cross into Iraq at Sumar, 160 kilometres east of Baghdad, were forced to retreat.

Earlier Iraqi reports spoke of Iranians penetrating up to one or two kilometres inside Iraqi territory at points near Mandali.

But press reports said it seemed possible the area referred to was disputed territory seized by Iraq at the start of the war rather than uncontested Iraqi soil.

In Khartoum, the Sudan News Agency said President Jaafar Numeiri held an urgent meeting with senior military aides to discuss how many men and types of weapons to send to Iraq, but it

gave no indication of when they might leave for the front.

"The troops would go to sister Iraq following the recent Iranian aggression on Iraqi territories," the agency added.

It said the Sudanese decision was taken in compliance with resolutions adopted at last month's Arab summit meeting in Morocco regarding foreign aggression against the territories of any Arab country as an assault on all Arab states.

The Sudanese move would represent the first involvement by the official armed forces of any Arab state in the fighting that broke out between the two Middle East countries in September 1980.

Iraq's forces have been joined by Arab volunteers—Jordanians, Moroccans, Tunisians, Somalis, Lebanese, Palestinians, Syrians and Egyptians, as well as Sudanese.

But Jordan was until now the only Arab country to have off-

icially encouraged its nationals to fight in the war.

Egypt, whose membership of the Arab League was suspended, is supplying Iraq with weapons and ammunition while Gulf states have given it economic aid.

The Saudi state radio, meanwhile, in a main political commentary, warned Iran against a "no-holds-barred" war with the entire Arab World.

The radio also called for "quick and serious pan-Arab moves" to back Iraq "before it is too late."

The call followed a Saudi royal court statement urging Iraq to respond positively to peace proposals and warning of possible foreign intervention in the Gulf region.

The statement, released by the Saudi Press Agency, said Arab countries "deeply regretted Iran's aggression on Iraqi territories in the event of further Iranian attacks."

The radio said Arab leaders meeting in Morocco last month had resolved to invoke the Joint Arab Defence Treaty in the event of further Iranian attacks.

In Kuwait, the independent newspaper Al Qabas said the latest Iranian attack came as "a blunt and all-out Persian challenge, not only to Iraq but to the entire Arab World and to Arab existence itself."

Habib concludes latest mission

DAMASCUS (R) — U.S. special envoy Philip Habib talked for three hours with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad at the end of a Middle East tour aimed at securing the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon.

He later left for Rome en route for Washington to brief President Reagan on the results of his tour, U.S. embassy officials said.

The official Syrian news agency SANA said the talks centred on "ways of reasserting Lebanon's sovereignty over all Lebanese territories through Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon as soon as possible."

Informal sources said Friday that Syrian officials told Mr. Habib Damascus would withdraw its army from Lebanon if the Beirut government requested it and Israel also pulled out.

But SANA made no reference Sunday to the withdrawal of Syrian troops. Thousands of Syrian troops moved into north and east Lebanon under a mandate from the 22-member Arab League which has now expired.

The Israelis, who invaded Lebanon on June 6 still occupy the southern half of the country.

Informed sources in Damascus said Mr. Habib was told Syria had no say on the issue of the withdrawal of the Palestinian forces, and only the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) could decide.

PLO officials in Damascus would not comment on prospects for their forces leaving Lebanon.

Mr. Habib, who negotiated the withdrawal of Palestinian, Syrian and Israeli forces from Beirut, has visited Israel, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria on his latest peace mission.

Shamir: 'No problems'

Meanwhile in Washington, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said he expected all Syrian, Palestinian and Israeli forces to be out of Lebanon by the end of this year.

He added that he saw no major problems in pressing ahead immediately with negotiations to establish a timetable for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon.

"The Syrians, for instance, have expressed their willingness to leave Lebanese territory and I don't think the PLO would remain there without the protection of Syrian troops," he said.

Mr. Shamir, in the CBS Television interview "Face the Nation", stressed that Israel had no intention of remaining in Lebanon "for an additional moment" after all other foreign forces left.

But he said it was "the logical conclusion" that Israeli forces would stay on the outskirts of Beirut until a general agreement was reached on an overall withdrawal.

Israeli soldiers come under fire in east Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Unidentified gunmen opened fire on an Israeli vehicle Sunday on a main road through the mountains east of Beirut, state-run Beirut Radio said.

The radio, which gave no details of any casualties, said the attack took place near the mountain village of Aley.

Israeli troops immediately blocked off the road and imposed a curfew. The streets were deserted this evening except for the occasional passing car.

Aley, a summer resort town populated by Christians and Druze Muslims, was captured by Israeli forces in June near the start of the Lebanon invasion.

Previous attacks on Israeli vehicles passing along the highway have been blamed on Palestinian forces who Israel claims have infiltrated through Syrian lines to the north and east.

The Israeli soldiers said the casualties from the attack were immediately taken by helicopter to Israel for treatment.

Lebanese police at the Aley gendarmerie station said Israeli troops moved through the town with loudspeakers telling local people to stay indoors.

"We heard a big explosion, then Israeli troops started moving through the streets and they set up road blocks," said one policeman.

He said the police had not been able to go out to investigate the attack themselves.

Mubarak cautions Israel against present policies

and bloodshed."

Support of U.S. plan

Mr. Mubarak expressed Egypt's continuing commitment to a peaceful settlement in the Middle East and praised President Reagan's peace proposals, saying they could be the basis for negotiating a comprehensive settlement.

Blaming Israel for the present stalemate in Middle East peace efforts, he said: "The policy of Israel has caused so much harm to the peace and stability of the region because it is back to the beating of war drums and the demonstration of military might."

"These are the illusions we crushed this month in 1973."

Mr. Mubarak was referring to the October 1973 Arab-Israeli war when Egyptian troops stormed Israeli lines on the east side of the Suez Canal. He was commander of Egypt's air forces at the end of this year.

Stressing that Egypt was not

imposing a specific formula to solve the Palestinian issue, Mr. Mubarak said the Reagan plan rejected occupation and expansion and provided a chance for the equal participation of all parties in finding a solution.

He said chances of bringing

peace to the Middle East should

not be wasted.

Somali rebels accuse Ethiopia of massacre

MOGADISHU (R) — Western Somali guerrillas Sunday accused Ethiopian troops of massacring some 500 civilians in the Ogaden region of southeast Ethiopia.

The Somali-backed Western Somalis Liberation Front (WSLF), which seeks to end Ethiopian rule over the Ogaden and its ethnic Somali inhabitants, said the massacre occurred last month at the villages of Segag, Wadhel and Gador.

An official statement said a report in the London Sunday Times that the entire Israeli high command had called for Mr. Sharon's resignation was "absolutely incorrect."

State radio described the story as exaggerated but spoke of military commanders harshly criticising the controversial minister following the massacre of Palestinian refugees in Beirut last month.

According to both reports, the generals feared that Mr. Sharon was trying to shift responsibility for the massacre from the politicians to the army.

FEATURES

Whaling: Will it end in 1986?

The International Whaling Commission's (IWC) ban on whaling after 1986 may be a victory for environmentalists but not for whales. The ban may never take effect, and in any case many whales will be killed over the next four years. There are good scientific reasons for a moratorium on whaling. But IWC decisions are based more on politics than science, and the IWC will continue to regulate whaling even after 1986.

By William K. de la Mare

LONDON — The recent decision of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) to phase out commercial whaling by 1986 has been hailed as a "victory" for environmentalists. But is it a victory for whales?

First, the whaling ban may never take effect. Under IWC rules, a nation has 90 days to object in a Commission decision, in which case that nation is not bound by the decision. The IWC itself is toothless, having no powers to enforce its decisions. If Japan objects, as expected, other whaling nations such as the Soviet Union, Norway, Iceland, Peru and Brazil have another 90 days to follow suit.

The only force which might bring whaling nations into line is U.S. law which allows the U.S. to impose unilateral fisheries sanctions if certain officials "certify" that a nation is damaging an international fishing treaty. Under this system, the U.S. could keep Japanese fishing boats out of U.S. waters and Japanese fish products off U.S. market shelves—a great blow to Japan's fishing industry.

But the U.S. Administration proved itself at the last IWC meeting to be extremely reluctant to apply these sanctions. This was shown by the fact that quotas were set for North West Pacific sperm whales, despite a previous IWC decision banning catches of this stock. Japan had insisted on continuing to catch these whales, so if no quota had been set there would have been an immediate Japanese confrontation.

However, the U.S. signaled clearly that they did not want to face such a decision. Setting catch limits for this season and the next put off the problem for two years.

Also, the whaling phase-out was achieved at great cost to some whales. Having voted through the ban, the conservation nations softened considerably on the catch limits for next season. Quotas were set for stocks, besides the North West Pacific sperm whale, about which many members of the IWC Scientific Committee had

expressed considerable concern. The most glaring example is the Peruvian stock of Bryde's whales, which is estimated to be at 20-30 per cent of its initial abundance, with only about 1,000 animals remaining. Despite this, a catch limit of 165 whales was set. Spain, a whaling nation which voted for the ban, was given a quota of 270 fin whales over 1983-86, though the stock may contain only 800 animals.

In 1972 the U.N. Environment Conference in Stockholm called for a 10-year moratorium on commercial whaling. Now, 10 years later, this proposal may finally take effect. Given the progress made over the decade in the scientific management of fish stocks, such a ban still a reasonable goal today?

Scientific reasons

Many whale experts think so, for scientific rather than moral or "humanitarian" reasons. This is despite the fact that since 1972, the industry has been trimmed to a more appropriate size and has also grudgingly accepted measures designed to put the management of whales on a sustainable basis.

The 1972 call for a moratorium led in 1974 to the introduction of a "New Management Procedure" (NMP), which provided rules by which catch limits would be set, along with criteria for protecting stocks. Under the NMP, some stocks of whales have been protected, and the total catches of all species have declined from some 40,000 per year to approximately 10,000.

However, the NMP had a serious flaw: where whaling nations could not provide data on the stocks they were catching, and where there were no obvious declines in stocks, new quotas were based on the average catch over the preceding years. The result was that some threatened stocks for which there were data were protected, but other stocks for which there were little data continued to have the same catch limit set year after year.

The NMP thus actively discouraged whaling nations from providing data about their operations. Recently, whaling countries such as Japan have even refused to give independent scientists access to existing data, presumably fearing that it would show that some stocks are lower than previously thought.

The attention the whaling issue has received has attracted more scientific work on whale populations. Surprisingly, this work has proved that science is simply unable to provide the advice required by the NMP. And the NMP does not provide a framework for making decisions in the face of scientific uncertainty.

For example, the status of the sperm whale in the North West Pacific has been extensively reviewed by the IWC Scientific Committee for five years—with the final result that the Scientific

Committee cannot decide on what basis to classify the stock under the NMP or how to set catch limits.

It has been found that the usual methods for setting quotas in situations where the stocks do not appear to be declining are so insensitive that if a stock were reduced to one quarter of its initial abundance over a 10-year period, then there is only a 50 per cent chance of this being noticed.

Also, the NMP considers each stock in isolation and not as part of a total ecosystem, thus any other problems man may cause—whales-pollution, disturbance of habitats, or catching the fish the whales eat—are ignored.

As scientists know too little to allow the hunting of whales to continue, and as no progress has been made in devising new management rules, there is a clear "scientific" need for a ban now.

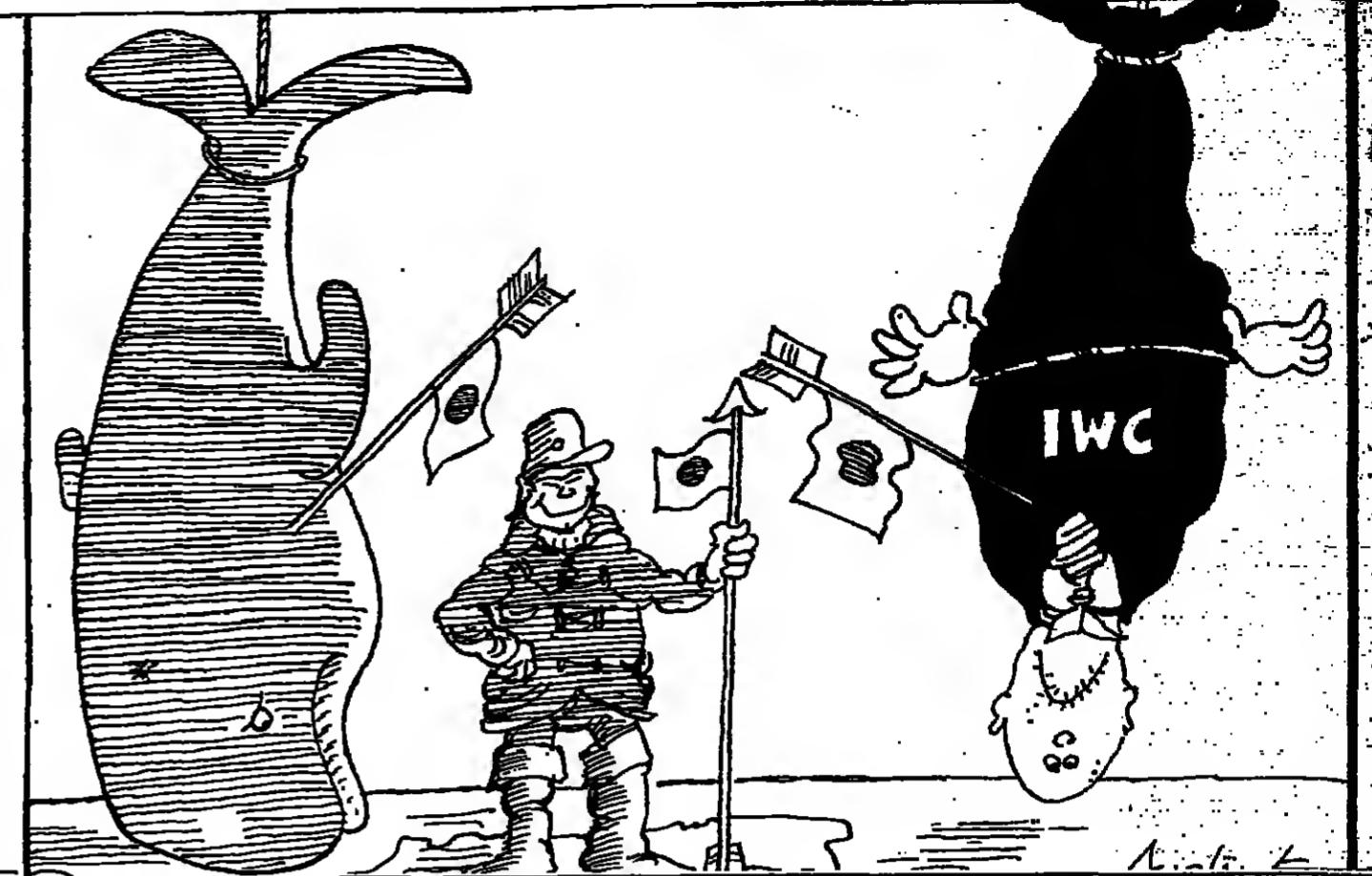
But surely all of this is aca-

demic, as whaling will end in 1986? Not necessarily. Commercial whaling will not end if the whaling nations object. Also the IWC, its Scientific Committee and the NMP will all continue operating, reviewing the effect of the ban after five and then after 10 years.

Current management procedures cannot ensure that some hunted stocks will not be reduced to low levels over 1982-86. Also, the Scientific Committee of the IWC has itself become so politicized that even in cases where there is clear evidence that stocks are in trouble, no clear recommendations emerge from that body.

If whaling does end in 1986, if there is no whaling industry pushing for quotas, perhaps then, and only then, can an objective review of whale science and management be achieved.

— Earthscan



Photography opens new horizons for a teacher

Lai Yau-san has learned how to combine work and pleasure. He has photographed the world of insects to enrich his own life and create a detailed record which inspires respect and care for natural things.

Surprisingly, Lai is not a professional photographer, nor even an entomologist, but merely an elementary school teacher who likes to take photographs. But if you mention "Mr. Lai who raises insects" in Yuanlin in Changhua county in central Taiwan, many people will know who you mean.

From his years of experience teaching natural science, Lai discovered that through allowing students to observe living things at first hand, his work was cut in half. Students not only learn faster in this way, but they remember more as well. They also have more interest in reading and conducting research.

At first, Lai brought the insects to class himself, but later he encouraged students to contribute their own specimens. He often took students on field trips to catch insects such as beetles, mantises, crickets, caterpillars, locusts, bees and butterflies.

Some parents were not exactly thrilled with the idea of their children bringing bugs home as pets, and complained to Lai. But he explained, "Nature is filled with many wonders and mysteries. Children should observe and understand all the animals and phenomena they can. By raising and caring for them, they will learn responsibility, one of the main aims of education."

Photographic record

Watching insects perform such

functions as egg laying or sprouting wings can often inspire awe. Many children do not even understand how to conduct experiments properly, however. Mr. Lai thought it was a shame they missed so much, and conceived the idea of recording the insect world on film. Not only does he enjoy taking pictures, but also the photographic record is more precise than the written one.

Good work demands the use of the right tools, so Lai asked friends who were going overseas to bring back the best photographic equipment. "At that time, such a purchase took all the money I could save from my teacher's salary," he said. "But it was the best available equipment, and I never regretted the decision."

From that time on, Lai was never without his camera. Not only did his photographic ability and knowledge of insects grow, but also he learned how to use background and lighting effects. Soon, his teaching materials began to look more like works of art.

Lai pointed out that certain insects are associated with particular plants, while others change their habits according to the time of the year or the environment. It is best to photograph them in their natural setting, but this often means waiting for a long time. "Sometimes I spend an entire afternoon just photographing one spider," Lai said. Several days can go by without one worthwhile picture and trying to take shots of egg-laying or skin-shedding can be particularly frustrating. In the end, Lai decided to raise insects himself.

Lai has taken part in many science fairs and photography shows.

In 1974 and 1976 he won first



A crystal palace surrounding the busy spider

place in the nature division of the Republic of China's International Photography Exhibition. His photographs have also appeared in science textbooks. In recognition of his efforts to improve his methods, Lai has been selected as one of Taiwan's outstanding teachers. He has even been honored as the

nation's most outstanding science teacher. But he modestly says, "I intend to work even harder. If I can put more into my work, my students will be able to learn more. As my students learn so do I. From my work at school, I am encouraged in my photographic work."

Lai is preparing 60 photographs for an exhibition at the Taichung Library in late September, which he hopes will bring even more children into contact with the fascinating world of insects. At the same time he is selecting 40 or 50 slides from his collection of tens of thousands to illustrate a book.

"My eyes are still good, and I will continue to take pictures," said Lai, now aged 42. His camera is worn through years of use, but his lenses are still sharp. Lai intends to understand and respect nature, and thereby increase his own understanding as well.

— Free China Review

TV & RADIO

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BOOK REVIEW

Jordan Valley attracts back its sons

THE JORDAN VALLEY

By Rami G Khouri
Published by Longman, 238 pages, photos and maps

Reviewed by Tuma J. Hazou

The Jordan Valley is undoubtedly one of the few rural areas in the Middle East, if not in the world, which is attracting back sons at a time when almost all rural areas generally are losing theirs—regardless whether the city is bright or dimly lit. Rami Khouri has set out to document and illustrate with words, tables and pictures how this unique trend came about in recent years. His style, in his first book, is unashamedly journalistic and easy to read. It covers the development of the valley since the earliest of irrigation networks of the early 1900s, more than five thousand years ago, when Valley produce is being exported to nearby states.

The central theme of this book is the regional comprehensive development adopted in the early 1970s, as yet untried in Jordan at all, to decentralise decision-making in rural areas. Land reclamation and water development, increased food production, on-hand in hand with improved social services and public utilities. Dams and irrigation systems are being built, schools, roads, clinics and domestic water supplies are to be introduced, planned and funded through an autonomous body.

The Jordan Valley Commission presided over by the able Dr Abdallah Dokhgan and a staff of dedicated assistants, took up the responsibility and the challenge. Supported by the ever-hustling Crown Prince Hassan, the JVC literally worked day and night to achieve what many in both government and private circles thought would be impossible. Mr. Khouri expertly illustrates the problems inherent in developing farming communities and their natural resources. His book bubbles with the candid insights and perceptions of those he helped. Commenting on the blunders that faced the JVC, the fly-by-night super ministry, Dokhgan recalls: "It was only natural to take power from the ministry. We had to be careful and patient; we had to put up with and overcome their objections". There were equally fierce objections from the Valley



Aerial view of one of the new villages taking shape in the Jordan Valley



Advanced drip irrigation and plastic hothouses are now widely used to increase output of fresh fruits and vegetables throughout the Jordan Valley.

It, a telling example of inter-Arab and global dynamics: a Jordanian trained in Iraq, treating Palestinian refugee farmers and Egyptian labourers attracted to the Jordan Valley by \$1.5 billion development project funded by fifteen national and international agencies.

The ambitious development plan is earnestly being implemented in the Valley, with an admirable measure of success, are meticulously outlined by the author to an extent which constitutes one of my only two criticisms of this valuable book. The first being that several pages—particularly in chapter eight—are jammed with figures upon numbers upon percentages of production tonnage, value, increases, years, areas, dollars and dinars. While this will be appreciated by researchers, ordinary readers might well find it tedious. My second criticism con-

cerns the price tag on the book. Twelve and a half dinars is surely too much to pay for a book of this nature and size. Sadly, but understandably, I learnt from a couple of bookstore managers in Amman that many are those who quickly pick up this book off the shelves, leaf through it, approve... but once told by the cashier how much it costs, quickly return it to its place. It is a shame that the book has been over-priced.

Over-priced it is, I should know, for I was involved in a recent publication of the same size, printed also in London, and selling at less than half the price of this most admirable book about an area of Jordan where forces have been unleashed, incentives created, resources harnessed, ingenuity sparked and hope stimulated. If you cannot afford the book, then I strongly recommend you "beg, borrow or steal" a copy.

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Soviet team is due in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — A five-member Soviet technical team is due here on Oct. 15 to help install equipment and machinery at the national training centre in Hakkak, in Irbid Governorate, according to a spokesman for the National Training Corporation (NTC). He said that the team will be in Jordan for six months.

Ramtha reopens pilgrims' camp

MUTHA (Petra) — Ramtha municipality has reopened the pilgrims' camp for receiving Muslim pilgrims returning from Mecca on their way home. Ramtha Mayor Mohammad Al Bashabash said Saturday.

He said that during Eid Al Adha holidays municipality workers have been busy making necessary arrangements for re-accommodating the returning pilgrims.

Day seminar opens in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — A five-day seminar on teaching English opened at the Amman Community College Sunday morning. Taking part are supervisors of English at the ministry of education's various institutes and teachers of English language at community colleges in Jordan.

The seminar is part of the ministry's efforts to improve the educational process in Jordan and is aimed to help offer better services to schools, said Dr. Abdul Fattah Arabyat, the ministry's secretary general.

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Sawwaf returns from Canada

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology (AOSEM) Secretary General Zafar Al Sawwaf returned to Amman Sunday after participating in a five-day international conference on measurements in Toronto, Canada.

Delegates from nations around the world have endorsed an aid programme to developing nations in the field of measurements and standardisation, according to Dr. Sawwaf. He said this programme entails holding seminars and training courses in this field in a number of developing countries.

AOSM was established in 1965 with the aim of unifying technical terms and standard specifications for products produced in the Arab World. It also assists in the establishment of national bodies and collaborates with international standards activities.

During the conference, Dr. Sawwaf submitted a briefing on the role of AOSM and its activities in the Arab World particularly in the field of unifying Arab standards with a view to facilitating world trade and the transfer of technology.

He said that some 50 participants in the course will be lectured on sports activities for handicapped people and will see films on the subject that should promote their methods and improve their capabilities.

Training course for handicapped to open

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-week training course in sports for handicapped persons will open at the University of Jordan on Tuesday. The course, the first of its type in Jordan and probably in the Arab World, is designed to orient sports coaches and supervisors on sports activities for handicapped people, and enable instructors to offer their training in this field to handicapped persons in centres and

institutes around the country, according to Dr. Mohammad Mamasser, dean of the university's Physical Training Faculty.

He said that some 50 participants in the course will be lectured on sports activities for handicapped people and will see films on the subject that should promote their methods and improve their capabilities.

Pilgrims' resthouse set up

ZARQA (Petra) — A resthouse set up at kilo 38 along the Azraq-Zarqa highway will be open to receive Muslims returning from Mecca on their way home, a spokesman for the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs said here Sunday.

He said that nearly 30,000 pilgrims mostly from Eastern Europe and Turkey are expected to be accommodated at the resthouse in the coming few days.

A large number of Iraqi pilgrims arrived at the resthouse Saturday on their way home, he said. The resthouse, he added, has been provided by basic services as well as pamphlets about holy places and archaeological sites in Jordan.

Ajlouni leaves for London

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Isam Ajlouni left for London Sunday on a week-long official visit at the invitation of the British government. During the visit, Mr. Ajlouni will meet a number of officials to discuss the prospect of increasing the volume of cooperation between the cities of London and Amman in various fields. Mr. Ajlouni will hold talks with the Lord Mayor of London and will visit other British cities for talks with their mayors on public services.

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JORDAN TV CHANNEL 6
GREAT DEPRESSION
Tuesday 9:10

The great depression began in America in the Autumn of 1929, when the New York Stock Exchange collapsed. (The Wall Street crash), as it's known, triggered a series of economic disasters which within three years threw 12 million Americans out of work. The Depression rapidly spread through the industrialised, poorer and agricultural countries alike. More than forty million people were made jobless, more millions were thrown into poverty and there was starvation in some countries. The political effects of the depression were equally catastrophic. Many Latin American governments were violently overthrown and democracies were put under great strain. In one country, Germany, the Great Depression killed parliamentary democracy altogether and paved the way for the rise of Hitler. So the Depression helped to bring about the Second World War.

Why did the Great Depression happen?
What is its significance for us today?
Is there going to be another?

The causes and the cures of the Great Depression are among the most controversial issues in economics today.

The programme focuses on the Great Depression in Britain, Germany and the United States by use of archive film, interviews with people who lived through the period and filming in relevant locations, they try to explain why it happened and what it was like to live through the risks that the 1980's may prove to re-run of the 1930s.

ARABIC CLASSES

THE BRITISH COUNCIL announces the commencement of the new term on October 9th. Classes will be offered at two levels.

Dates of term: October 9th — December 22nd

Times of classes: Mornings.

Fee: JD 29

Registration will take place from October 2nd — 7th, from 9.00 — 12.00 and 3.30 — 5.30.

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscriptions and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times Advertising Department.

A daunting task

THERE HAVE been some positive signs that the new president of Lebanon, Mr. Amin Gemayel, would like to be precisely that—the president of Lebanon, and not just the ritualistic chief of his own tribe. It will be some time before the Lebanese themselves have the opportunity to show whether they intend to reestablish their country as a country or as a series of loosely confederated fiefdoms.

Mr. Gemayel may be constrained by the rough legacy of his Falangist connections, and the traditional individualistic, militaristic bent of groups within the rightist Lebanese forces. He has suggested that he wishes to, and is capable of, rising above the factionalism that has characterised so many of his Falangist and rightist colleagues. He is personally less tainted by the legacy of warfare and revenge that was such a constraint, and ultimately killed, his late brother.

It is important for Lebanon to have the opportunity to manifest its genuine aspirations to live as an independent nation-state, free from the tutelage that Israel would

like to impose upon it. One feels that the traditional power-sharing formula that has been applied in Lebanon since independence is somewhat out of date, made obsolete by demographic and political changes that cannot be ignored in a system that expressly based on demographic and political groupings. It is slightly disconcerting to see the same old traditional political leaders of Lebanon come to the fore yet again to share the spoils of power. If the same old 1950s system is revived in the 1980s, the spectre of internal warfare and power struggles will hang over the Lebanese once again. It is Mr. Gemayel's responsibility, as a young, new leader of his still dynamic and effervescent country, to set in motion a process of political modernisation that applies the traditional power-sharing principles of Lebanon in the changed circumstances of today. If the Arabs show that they are willing to help Lebanon in this respect, one thinks that Mr. Gemayel should have a good chance of accomplishing a daunting task.

JORDAN'S ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: All Arabs should move to support Iraq

The present Iranian offensive against Iraqi territories is a new test of the Fez summit decisions regarding the Arab stand towards the Iranian aggression, and the implementation of the pan-Arab mutual defence agreement.

The new assault represents a challenge, not only to Iraq's territorial integrity and security, but also to the present and future well-being of the Arab Nation.

The Arab states are urgently called upon to honour their national commitments towards Iraq, to sever diplomatic, economic and financial relations with the Iranian regime; and to abide by the mutual defence treaty.

Jordan has invariably warned against the aggressive schemes of the Iranian leadership, and

thus taken practical steps to render fraternal support for Iraq. The all-volunteer Yarmouk force has long been engaged in defending Iraqi territory, side by side with their Iraqi brothers.

We now reiterate Jordan's firm stand, calling for pan-Arab solidarity against all kinds of aggression, and stress the necessity for a responsible and effective move to provide Iraq with all that is needed to defend its territorial integrity.

Iraq is defending Arab dignity with the blood of its sons at the Arab eastern front. Its steadfast stand demands common Arab support to defend their front-line, brave citadel. History will never forgive those who hesitate to carry out their responsibilities and defend their dignity and well-being.

Al Dustour: Words against Iran are not enough

It is totally unacceptable, after the Fez summit decisions, to face the new Iranian attack against Iraqi territories with condemnations and verbal expressions of solidarity.

The Iranian-Iraqi war has entered its third year. Iraq has done all in its capacity to open avenues for the cessation of hostilities and creating the suitable climate for a negotiated peaceful settlement of the conflict. The Iranian side has methodically jeopardised all peace efforts, and insisted on pursuing an aggressive stand, threatening not only Iraqi soil, but also all those who oppose the hegemonic trends endorsed by the fanatic Iranian leadership.

While Arab and Muslim soil and holy places suffer under Israeli brutality, and while Muslim children are slaughtered by the Israeli war-machine, the Iranian response, which should have

undergone a shift relevant to propagated slogans, was blatant intensification of the war.

The Iranian negative attitude towards all peace efforts, Islamic and international, only emphasises the bitter need for a firm pan-Arab stand to repel all aspects of humiliation to our personality and aggression against our national soil.

The Arab citizen finds the response demonstrated by his leaders towards the dangers of the Iranian intentions rather unacceptable. An early manifestation of readiness to implement the pan-Arab mutual defence treaty would have halted the aggressive trends of the Iranian leadership and made it pay for its irresponsible policies.

Iran has resumed its wide-scale aggressive acts against Iraqi soil, and adherence to the Fez summit decisions is being newly attested.

America has the leverage, but has it the will?

By Thomas R. Stauffer

Mr. Begin's total repudiation of the U.S. peace proposals again focuses attention on Israel's desperate economic dependence upon the U.S. and the extraordinary leverage which the U.S. could easily exercise over Israel if it chose to do so. Lost in the discussion of Israel's invasion of Lebanon is the fact that the U.S. government at every step had the clearly defined option of intervening and forcing the Israelis to withdraw. As Flora Lewis wrote in the New York Times: "The U.S. cannot dictate to Israel, but the important distinction is between the ability to dictate and the willingness."

The capacity is painfully clear: U.S. aid dominates the inflation-wrecked and faltering Israeli economy, and existing U.S. laws permit, if not require, suspension of U.S. aid. Indeed, there is already ample precedent for such intervention by the U.S. and the striking failure of the Reagan administration to invoke its ample resources to forestall the invasion, or at least to check it earlier, opens the U.S. to serious charges of complicity in the invasion—or, at the very least, to charges of guilt through egregious default.

The potential for U.S. sanctions against Israel is indeed formidable, and the political leverage which the U.S. can exercise through economic pressures alone is

incontestable. Israel's vulnerability to U.S. economic sanctions is today almost unprecedented—its economy is now at its weakest point since the country was carved out of Palestine in 1948. Inflation rates have exceeded 100 per cent for the last four years, the currency is devalued almost monthly, and the chronic balance of payments deficit equals one-fourth of the total gross national product.

Israel's vulnerability to sanctions can most brutally be measured by the fact that almost one half of its GNP is generated by foreign aid, almost all of which comes from the U.S. Even prior to the Lebanese invasion and its latest demands for still more assistance, Israel received rather more than \$4 billion annually from the U.S. The additional demands, if successful, would push the total to \$5 billion.

Official U.S. aid is budgeted at \$2.7 billion for the coming fiscal year, of which \$1.7 billion is in outright grants, without any repayment obligation, while the remainder is in loans under concessionary terms, with low interest rates and ten-year grace periods. In addition, Israel receives \$600-800 million in transfers from tax-exempt Jewish charities and purchases of Israeli development bonds, a figure which may escalate this year if recent fund-raising efforts by Mr. Sharon and American Jewish leaders prove successful. These funds are deductible against

U.S. income tax liabilities, so that the U.S. fiscal department pays about a half of those amounts as well.

Revocable benefits

A final, easily revocable economic benefit which the Israelis realise from the U.S. is the special privileges they enjoy in exporting to the U.S. Tariffs are either low or zero on most Israeli goods, and, even more important in the last years, they have been sheltered from any application of the counter-vailing duties which U.S. law otherwise would require as a consequence of the massive subsidies with which Israel promotes its high-cost exports.

These privileges are discretionary, and the Reagan administration, if it wanted to exert pressure, could easily suspend the critical tax and tariff exemptions which have arisen largely through *de facto* waivers of existing laws and regulations. The charitable status of some major Jewish organisations has been questioned, and several small domestic industries, whose sales have already been affected by highly subsidised competition from Israeli firms, have filed complaints. The administration, presently protecting Israeli firms by dragging its feet and overlooking violations, could seriously damage Israel's lucrative, protected exports to the U.S. expediting those suits.

Moreover, Israel today is even

more susceptible to economic sanctions because it has no cash—the state technically is very close to bankruptcy. Israel's real foreign exchange balances, even prior to the extra costs and export losses occasioned by the invasion of Lebanon, were already precariously close to zero. Any cut-off of U.S. aid—or even a credible threat of such a cut-off—would trigger a serious liquidity crisis, compounding the direct impact of the lost aid.

Ostensibly Israel holds foreign exchange reserves of \$3 billion, a comfortable margin equal to 3 months' imports. These reserves however are largely window-dressing, built up by short-term borrowings by the private Israeli banks whose some \$3 billion in mobile, short-term debts are not officially debited against the central bank's nominal deposits. These balances would dry up almost instantly in the umbrella of U.S. aid were withdrawn, since Israel's credit rating otherwise is distressingly low. U.S. financial leverage is thus immediate, even though much of the aid involves a longer pipeline, because its flow is the indispensable condition for Israel to finance its imports almost on a day-to-day basis, given the lack of cash and the weakness of the economy in general.

Laws could be applied

The statutory basis for withdrawing aid as a political san-

ction is well documented in the U.S. and it is possible there may even be a statutory mandate to terminate all U.S. aid to Israel under the circumstances of the invasion of Lebanon. U.S. law stipulates quite clearly that military aid, such as that upon which Israel depends totally, must be suspended if the arms are used for other than "defensive purposes". The foreign assistance act of 1961, now partly revised and redesignated as the Arms Export Control Act of 1978, explicitly restricts the use of any U.S.-supplied arms to "legitimate self defence" or "collective measures requested by the United Nations".

The president is required to make a determination whether a violation has occurred, in which case all aid under the act "or any other act" is to be terminated.

But loopholes do exist: Mr. Reagan for example could determine that the invasion of Lebanon and the siege of Beirut were purely defensive measures, as argued variously by Mr. Begin and Mr. Sharon. The president could evade the legislative structures by an official declaration that the "action" is in the "security interests of the United States", an automatic justification but one which is politically even more costly than designating the invasion to be defensive. The legislative authority and the mandate to cut off aid have been circumvented thus far through inaction, not positive designations.

Both the Reagan administration and Mr. Carter's side-stepped this issue and did not formally invoke the legislation which would have precipitated obligatory suspension of U.S. aid to Israel. In the case of the use of U.S.-furnished cluster bombs in the Lebanon in 1978, it was reported only that a violation "might have taken place". More recently, the administration has shown little dispatch in resolving whether the Israeli invasion was "defensive", and Congress has shown even less inclination to press the matter.

The administration's embarrassment is heightened by the awkward fact of the long history of instances where the U.S. quite explicitly has terminated aid to countries which violated U.S. policy norms, as well as further cases where the U.S. actually took the more extreme step of terminating cash sales, not just aid. At various times the U.S. has stopped its oldest aid programmes, consisting primarily of loans for military equipment purchases to Argentina, Nicaragua, Salvador, and Turkey on grounds of human rights violations or use of the weapons for purposes other than intended. There has been a blanket embargo against South Africa for an extended period, and more recently, the U.S. suspended sales of grain

—sales for cash, not under any form of concessionary terms—to the USSR because of its derivative complicity in the political crackdown in Poland.

Far from being suspended, U.S. aid to Israel is scheduled to increase this year, and the conspicuous absence over U.S. sanctions of any kind—not even a token slow-down in hardware deliveries—is heightened by the potential efficacy of such sanctions, coupled with the legislative precedents for their use. Such sanctions may have been invoked implicitly in forcing Mr. Begin to lift the siege of Beirut, but the Reagan administration must indeed proceed warily in imposing substantive pressures because the Israeli government still enjoys the substantive support of the bulk of the U.S. Jewish community. This is an election year, and thus Mr. Reagan must fear possible counter-sanctions: a shift of key Jewish campaign contributions or no less critical votes in certain electoral districts, as proved to be very important in the defeat of Mr. Carter in 1980 election. He also risks concentrated opposition, by way of reprisal, to his already battered and faltering domestic programmes. The U.S. is very well positioned to dictate to Israel, its recalcitrant economic vassal, but it is unlikely to do so because of grave domestic political risks. The lever does exist, but it is nonetheless hypothetical.

Dr. Stauffer, formerly research associate at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, is now visiting professor at the Diplomatic Akademie, Vienna.

The writer was undersecretary of state in the administration of Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson. He wrote this article for the *Washington Post*.

DE FACTONOMICS

Links between Palestine and Transjordan are deep-rooted

ONE OF the basic elements in President Reagan's initiative for a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict is to achieve "self-government" by the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza in association with Jordan.

It was the first time that the American policy has been spelled out publicly and concretely on this crucial issue. It is expected that this proposal will raise a lot of open as well as informal discussions among all those concerned with the future of the Palestinian people including the Palestinian communities.

Three main positions can be identified:

1. There are those who approve such an arrangement in general, but feel that it needs to be elaborated to become operational.
2. There are others who continue to seek the establishment of a separate Palestinian state in the West Bank (including Arab Jerusalem) and Gaza. Indeed, the Arab peace plan that was adopted in Fez last month follows these lines.
3. There are those who prefer to have this matter be subjected to Palestinian self-determination rather than

start with a ready-made end-result.

It is interesting to observe that these positions are not totally exclusive. Thus, the "association" alternative can be put to a referendum and, accordingly, becomes a possible outcome of a self-determination process. On the other hand, a Palestinian state could be an initial step to be immediately followed by negotiating special and closer relationships and cooperation with Jordan.

Though I do not claim to be an economic historian, there is enough evidence to prove that strong economic links between Palestine and Transjordan existed in various historical phases and were maintained regardless of the prevailing political arrangement. I shall depend in my commentary on a study which I wrote ten years ago on Arab economic integration and was published by the Arab Institute for Research and Studies in Cairo.

Under the Ottoman Empire, both Palestine and Transjordan came under the British mandate in 1922. Though the two areas were treated differently by the mandatory power, strong economic integration between them and demographic mobility continued. The following examples illustrate the significant links that existed between these two areas and their peoples.

1. One common currency was used in both Palestine and Transjordan. The Palestinian pound was issued since 1927 and used in both areas to be replaced by the Jordan dinar.

in 1950. This fact shows that both areas were closely associated not only in a monetary cooperation scheme but more in a currency integration case which goes much deeper and in more detail into the fabrics of their economic life and activities.

2. Flow of trade, capital and people were free between the two areas with no limitations or restrictions. As Konikoff noted, there were no customs duties imposed on goods exported and imported between Palestine and Transjordan. (See A. Konikoff, "Transjordan: An Economic Survey", Jerusalem, 1946). Workers were moving freely in both directions depending on the labour market conditions.

3. The western coastal ports in Palestine were almost the only outlet for Transjordan's trade and external activities. The World Bank mission wrote in its report entitled "The Economic Development of Jordan" (1957) that "before 1948, the major surplus production of the area now Jordan was sold in the coastal region of Palestine or exported through Haifa." page 4.
4. Palestine accounted for the

largest share of Transjordan's foreign trade. This share was also increasing over the years to reach in 1944 more than 98 per cent of Transjordan's exports and 91 per cent of its imports.

Moreover, demographic and cultural integration was still a stronger factor in maintaining economic and social unification until the present time.

However, this should not always be taken for granted, since some people, regardless of their influence, may be overwhelmed in their thinking by their immediate and personal interests which may not coincide with the majority position. In that direction, our intellectuals are invited to dwell on pinpointing deep-rooted links between Palestine and Transjordan. Various information media should highlight specific examples of our historic and existing close cooperation.

Once this issue is presented in its wider and long-term context, I am certain that our people will make the right decision towards maintaining and enhancing our strong links and integration.

In the name of humanity and decency, the United States should provide ample help for the Lebanese people; in the name of logic and justice, it should deduct the annual subsidy to Israel.

That subsidy is large enough to help materially with Lebanon's reconstruction. For the past several years, it has amounted to almost one-fourth of total U.S. foreign aid—which, for a country with a population less than that of Detroit, and only one-tenth of 1 percent of the world's population, suggests some distortion of values.

U.S. assistance to Israel amounts to roughly \$2.7 billion a year—\$750 per head for Israel's 3.5 million people. It is as if every American family of five gave Israel \$70 a year—and as the economist Thomas R. Stauffer concluded in the journal *Middle East International*, even that figure may be understated. If more Americans were aware of these calculations, it might add perspective to the current federal budget argument.

Accessory to crime

The diversion of U.S. subsidy to help the Lebanese people for the quantifiable costs of devastation would not, of course, compensate America for the political losses suffered by serving as Israel's diplomatic agent. By negotiating for the departure of PLO leaders while silently enduring the Begin government's posturing and hectoring and its continued harassment of the Beirut populace, the Reagan administration has appeared as an accessory to Defense Minister Ariel Sharon's effort to destroy the Palestinian leadership. By failing to use the leverage provided by the occasion to request, as a reasonable *quid pro quo*, Israel's commitment to a genuine autonomy plan for the West Bank and future self-determination for the Palestinians, the administration has darkened the hope for a fair and decent solution of the Palestinian problem.

Past experience has shown that the White House can expect little gratitude from the current government in Jerusalem. Israel will almost certainly press for a new supply of tanks and ammunition and cluster bombs to replace those it has used to destroy Beirut and for an increased subsidy to help meet the estimated \$2 billion or more that the war has already cost its own hard-pressed economy. Indeed, before Israeli troops are fully withdrawn (there is increasing evidence they may plan to keep control of southern Lebanon up to and including the watershed of the Litani River—the last major water resource divertible into Israel) the sum could be more than twice that.

Nor will the dispersal of the PLO make Mr. Begin and his colleagues any more flexible in addressing the Palestinian problem. On the contrary, they will be even more obdurate and confirmed in their expansionist ambition. That was what happened when the United States ended the danger of a two-front war by neutralising Egypt through the Camp David accords. To talk as if eliminating the PLO leadership will improve the chances for a Palestinian settlement is fantasy.

The writer was undersecretary of state in the administration of Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson. He wrote this article for the *Washington Post*.

Israeli Settlement, Occupied West Bank of Jordan:



Israeli Settlement, Occupied East Bank of Potomac:



ENTERTAINMENT

By Paul Bettis

NEW YORK — The Motion Picture Association of America, Hollywood's own CBI, is stepping up its campaign against video tape pirates which, it claims, cost the film studios and their home video subsidiaries and divisions about \$1 billion a year in lost revenues in the U.S. and abroad.

Last month (September) 12 of the country's largest motion picture producers filed the largest series of civil actions against video pirates in the industry's history. U.S. marshals, armed with court-issued writs of seizure, removed from video tape stores in as many

Video pirates find haven in England

as five states copies of recent and not so recent hit movies including, among others, Kramer versus Kramer, Star Wars, and Superman II.

The civil cases are the latest in the motion picture industry's growing campaign with the FBI to combat film and video tape piracy. Indeed, apart from the industry's civil actions, there have already been 275 criminal convictions for film and video piracy in the U.S. since 1975 with as many as 53 convictions so far this year.

But if the film industry appears to be successfully tackling the video pirates in America, it is now increasingly worried about the situation in Britain which, according to Mr. James Bouras, the Motion Picture Association's chief pirate buster, has become "unquestionably the world capital of video tape piracy."

Mr. Bouras says the situation in Britain, and in London in particular, has now gone completely out of control. "Piracy is open, rampant and is not confined to the

U.K. market but polluting a great number of other world markets," he says.

What upsets the film moguls most is that the British government appears to be taking no action at all against the pirates and, Mr. Bouras adds, Scotland Yard has apparently made it a matter of policy not to become involved any longer in piracy cases.

"It is not surprising the Yard has taken this position," Mr. Bouras says. "The British Copyright

Act of 1956 is a bad joke. With a maximum penalty of £50 (\$86) for a first offence, it is hardly worth the authorities' making criminal prosecutions. As a result, the situation in England has exploded."

Mr. Bouras suggests that it is impossible to fight successfully against the pirates by civil actions alone. The thrust, he says, must come from the police authorities and criminal prosecution. "Civil actions back up the criminal prosecutions. But generally these civil law suits do not mean a thing to the professional copyright crooks."

"Unfortunately we must say we

have been disappointed in Britain," Mr. Bouras says. "Although outside the Greater London area the local police forces have been helpful and the Trading Standard Offices very active."

But London remains the centre of video tape pirates because it is an ideal duplication and distribution centre. "It's a booming business in London. Indeed, more than 70 per cent of all the videotapes in Britain are today pirated compared to substantially less than 10 per cent in the U.S. That means about \$200 million a year in lost revenues for the industry and the legitimate retailers."

-- Financial Times news feature

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SPORTS

Commonwealth Games turn into an Australia-England showdown

RISBANE (R) — Raney Tanzanian Gideamas Shahanga swooped off the final bend to snatch the 10,000 metres athletics title yesterday as England barged Australia aside in the chase for Commonwealth Games gold medals. After three days of competition was England first, Australia second and the rest nowhere. The two acemakers gobble up 10 of the 3 golds at stake Sunday, leaving Canada to scramble for two facing victories. With 35 events decided, England led the medals table with 14 golds, followed by Australia on 10. Canada were badly adrift in

third spot with a meagre four victories.

The main attention focused on the start of the track and field programme at the Queen Elizabeth II stadium where Shahanga brought 25,000 spectators to their feet as he powered to his second gold at successive games.

Four years ago in Canada spectators were asking "Gideamas who?" When he turned off all the favourites to win the marathon. This time he was a familiar face, but otherwise it was a similar story, with a posse of British rivals dropping back exhausted.

Only Tanzanian team mate

Zacharia Barie could stay in contention, but even he had no answer when Shahanga made his big push to win by just under half a second in 28 minutes 10.15 seconds.

It was no mean effort for a man who had arrived in Brisbane only 48 hours earlier. Shahanga, 21, said he would defend his marathon crown on Friday—and also disclosed he had lied about his age to get into the Tanzanian team for the 1978 games.

Brooks won in 51.14 seconds and received his gold from Prince Philip. He returned the compliment by presenting the Duke of Edinburgh with his Australian bush hat.

The Canadian nightmare continued when 200 metres butterfly trio Vic Davis, Lance Schroeder and Levente Mady finished fifth, sixth and eighth behind English gold medallist Phil Huhule who won in 2:00.98.

The Canadians had to settle for a solitary swimming gold for Cameron Henning who took the men's 200 metres backstroke in 2:02.88. But coach Dav Johnston seemed to be the eternal optimist when he said: "We've still got some good swimmers to come."

Not to be outdone by their swimmers, Australia completed a diving double when tiny Valerie Beddoe won the women's highboard event with 404.16 points—holding off a late challenge by Canada's Jennifer McArthur.

Curry, 20, who won in a Commonwealth record of one minute 1.22 seconds, could still plunder a total of four golds, though she admitted she was beginning to tire after three days of non-stop action.

Akiyda wins *Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe*

PARIS (R) — Akiyda, ridden by French champion jockey Yves Saint Martin, fought off the foreign challenge at Longchamp Sunday to win the *Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe*, Europe's richest horse race.

The three-year-old filly, owned by the Aga Khan, surged through to the front in the home straight and held on to pip the English-trained Ardross, ridden by Lester Piggott, by a head in a photo-finish.

Awaasif, ridden by Willie Carson, was another short head away third with April run fourth in a thrilling finish for the two million franc (\$286,000) first prize.

The 5-2 favourite, *Assert*, failed to make any impression after being drawn on the outside and finished a disappointing 11th.

Assert's trainer David O'Brien said before the race that if the decision had been his the Irish colt would not have run but owner Robert Sangster, who has won the race three times in the past six years, decided to let him race.

Bon Sang, ridden by 20-year-old Serge Gorli, made the early running chased by *Assert*'s half-brother, *Bikala*.

At this stage, as they went down the gentle slope, *Assert* was vying with *Akiyda* on the outside but faded quickly.

As they turned into the long home straight, Bon Sang faded two furlongs from home and the race developed into a four-horse battle.

But it was *Akiyda* who made the decisive break to give the filly their fourth successive *Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe* triumph.

China expresses interest in hosting 1990 Asian Games

MATSUE, Japan (R) — A Chinese Sports Federation official has said China may apply to host the 1990 Asian Games. The Japanese news agency Kyodo reported Sunday.

China and South Korea have no diplomatic relations.

The Vice-President of the South Korean Amateur Sports Association Kim Chong-Yul said he had asked China Sunday to take part in the 1986 Asian Games and the 1988 Olympics to be held in Seoul.

Kim told Reuters he had made the request in a brief meeting here with the Vice-Minister of the All-China Sports Federation Lu Jindong.

Hiroshima has also expressed interest in holding the 1990 event.

Lu declined to say whether China would invite South Korea if New Delhi next month.

Snipes sets himself up for possible rematch with Holmes

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey (R) — Renaldo Snipes won a unanimous points decision over Canadian Trevor Berwick Saturday night to set up a possible rematch against World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight champion Larry Holmes.

Snipes, 26, knocked Berwick to the canvas with a right cross in the first round and went on to win the bout and raise his record to 23 wins against one loss and two draws.

After the fight, Holmes said he would be happy to give Snipes another chance of taking away his crown.

"I think he deserves another opportunity," Holmes said after

watching the bout. "Maybe we can reach an agreement in the near future. I don't see where he has improved much since I last fought him except that maybe he has more determination."

Snipes, rated the number five contender by the WBC, traded punches from the opening bell with Berwick, ranked third.

By the fourth round both fighters appeared to feel the effects of trying for an early knockout. But Snipes, who suffered a cut above his left eye in the fourth round, proved the more difficult target as the bout went on.

Snipes weighed 98.2 kgs and Berwick was 100.9 kgs.

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Thatcher blocks cabinet debate on welfare state

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has blocked cabinet discussion on a controversial report making radical suggestions for changes in Britain's welfare state, government sources said Sunday.

The sources said Mrs. Thatcher recognised that the report — by the Conservative government's central policy review staff, nicknamed the "think tank" — could be electorally damaging.

Among options put forward in the report were replacing the state-run national health service by private medical insurance, ending grants for university students and trimming welfare benefits.

It caused an immediate outcry among Mrs. Thatcher's opponents when it was leaked to the press last month after being circulated to cabinet ministers, who the press said disagreed strongly over the report's contents.

Conservative Party sources said Mrs. Thatcher was aware of the danger of appearing to attack and dismantle the welfare state at a time of recession and unemployment.

They also said she wanted to reassure rank-and-file members at the party's annual conference, starting on Tuesday, that she had no intention of harming its chances of winning the next general election, due to be held by May 1984.

GCC oil ministers to meet in Oman on October 13

BAHRAIN (R) — Oil ministers from Saudi Arabia and its five Gulf allies, including some major producers, plan to meet on October 13 and 14 in Oman, a Gulf Cooperation Council official said in Riyadh.

The talks in the Arabian Sea coastal town of Salalah will focus on oil policy cooperation between council members Oman, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, oil experts said.

Oil and petrochemicals developments, especially in Bahrain and Oman, would also be discussed.

They added that the ministers were certain to consider how to cope with the weak demand for oil from OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) which has threatened the exporter group's hold on prices.

The six council members pump about eight million barrels of oil daily. Only Bahrain and Oman are not OPEC members.

Saudi Arabia's Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani and his five colleagues first met under the council's aegis in Riyadh last February to lay the foundations for cooperation.

West Germany's coal industry faces crisis

ESSEN, West Germany (R) — West Germany's coal industry is facing a crisis caused by falling consumption and a cut in state subsidies.

Stocks of unsold coal are growing rapidly, and the industry's 183,000-strong workforce fears that unless something is done soon the result will be short-time working, reduced mining investment and a long-term rundown of coal production.

During the 1973 oil crisis, coal was hailed as the answer to West Germany's energy problems and the government has repeatedly stressed the importance of an efficient coal industry for a strong

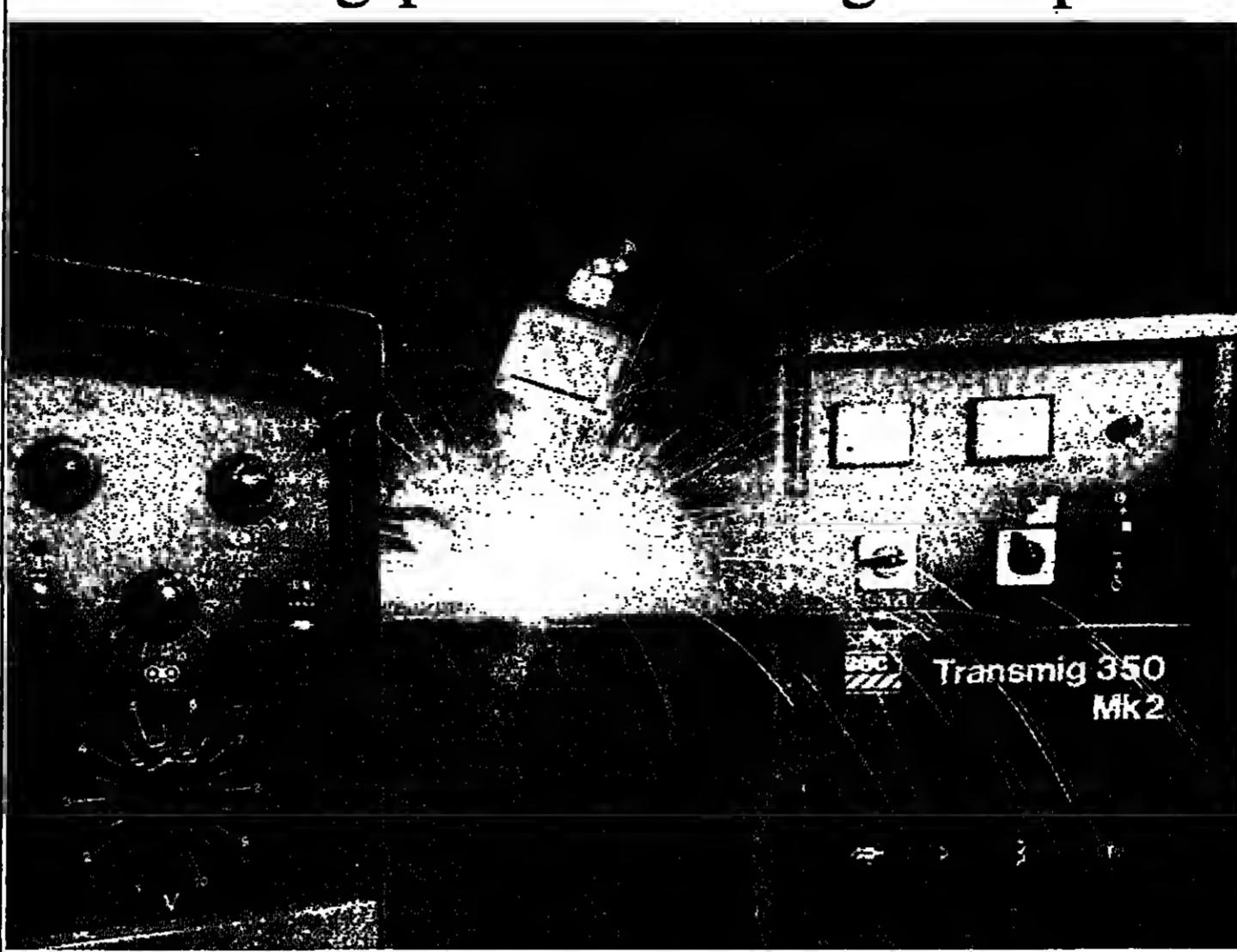
domestic economy. It says that coal reserves of 24 billion tonnes guarantee a reliable energy source.

But in the first eight months of this year, producers' stocks of hard coal rose by six million tonnes to 30 million tonnes — equivalent to one third of annual production.

The main cause of the growing coal dumps is to be found in the Ruhr district, where the mines are up to 2,000 metres deep. It is the Ruhr's other chief industry, steel.

West German crude steel production has fallen three per cent in the first seven months of this year because of European Community

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By Vinson

coal a year for 20 years from the German coal company Ruhrohle. For its part, the government pledged to bridge the gap between the price of domestic coking coal and imported coal.

The government payments stood at 4.75 marks (\$1.90) a tonne in 1970, but by 1977 had risen to 15.50 marks (\$5.40). So four years ago the state said coal and steel firms would have to contribute a small amount themselves.

The amount has grown. By 1980 the coal companies had to contribute 12.50 marks (\$5) a tonne and the steel companies 5.80 marks (\$2.32).

Now many steel managers feel that the high cost of using domestic coal outweighs the good quality and secure supplies.

They comment that in August South African coal was available at 138 marks (\$55) a tonne, while West German coal cost 243 marks (\$97).

According to the economic journal Wirtschaftswoche, German government subsidies of domestic coal cost taxpayers around six billion marks (\$2.4 billion) a year—much as much as the country's contribution to the Common Market farming policy.

In response to growing complaints from industry, the West German government has relaxed regulations on coal imports.

On top of the basic import quota of 5.1 million tonnes a year, steel companies can import three million a year and the power industry 120 million tonnes from 1981 to 1985.

Coal sales to the steel industry will fall from 37.5 million tonnes in 1981 to 30 million by 1990, analysts think. But a 29 per cent rise in deliveries to power stations by 1990 will compensate.

Electricity consumption is also being hit by the economic downturn, however, and hard coal's share of electricity output fell 21 per cent in 1981 from 24 per cent in 1972 as the cost of switching plant from oil to coal consumption became more financially prohibitive, industry sources said.

Ruth politicians and union leaders have called for more coal import controls, increased exports and accelerated use of coal in power stations to help the domestic coal industry.

But budget problems have led the Bonn government to cut investment aid to the industry. It fell from 800 million marks (\$320 million) in 1981 to 110 million marks (\$44 million) in 1982.

Observers see short-time working or even partial closure of pits as inevitable. Analysts agree a revival in demand is unlikely before 1985, and comment that present annual production capacity of 90 million tonnes will be enough to satisfy expected demand in 1990.

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The amount has grown. By 1980 the coal companies had to contribute 12.50 marks (\$5) a tonne and the steel companies 5.80 marks (\$2.32).

Now many steel managers feel that the high cost of using domestic coal outweighs the good quality and secure supplies.

They comment that in August South African coal was available at 138 marks (\$55) a tonne, while West German coal cost 243 marks (\$97).

According to the economic journal Wirtschaftswoche, German government subsidies of domestic coal cost taxpayers around six billion marks (\$2.4 billion) a year—much as much as the country's contribution to the Common Market farming policy.

In response to growing complaints from industry, the West German government has relaxed regulations on coal imports.

On top of the basic import quota of 5.1 million tonnes a year, steel companies can import three million a year and the power industry 120 million tonnes from 1981 to 1985.

Coal sales to the steel industry will fall from 37.5 million tonnes in 1981 to 30 million by 1990, analysts think. But a 29 per cent rise in deliveries to power stations by 1990 will compensate.

Electricity consumption is also being hit by the economic downturn, however, and hard coal's share of electricity output fell 21 per cent in 1981 from 24 per cent in 1972 as the cost of switching plant from oil to coal consumption became more financially prohibitive, industry sources said.

Ruth politicians and union leaders have called for more coal import controls, increased exports and accelerated use of coal in power stations to help the domestic coal industry.

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WORLD

Foiled Spanish coup seen as challenge for socialists

MADRID (R) — The Spanish authorities said Sunday they had smashed a plot by right-wing army officers to seize power on the eve of an expected socialist victory in general elections later this month.

Official sources told the national news agencies EFE and Europe Press that the plot had been foiled with the arrest yesterday of three colonels. They indicated that more arrests would follow.

The sources said the coup had been planned on a far bigger scale than the seizure of the Cories (parliament) in February 1981 by paramilitary Civil Guards who later surrendered.

This time the plotters had planned to take key government offices, cut vital communications links and start a rebellion through junior officers in barracks across the country, the sources said.

They said Prime Minister Leo-

poldo Calvo Sotelo held an emergency meeting at four a.m. on Saturday with the interior and defence ministers to decide on counter measures.

The arrests, carried out by uniformed generals, followed a few hours later and at the same time the authorities ordered the isolation of their cells of last year's convicted plotters.

The latest plot thrust the problem of the military to the fore of the campaign for the Oct. 28 elections and raised the question again of whether Spain's predominantly conservative armed forces would brook a socialist government.

A military judge began interrogating the three colonels at an army barracks outside Madrid where the 1981 plotters were tried and jailed earlier this year.

Gonzalez defiant

Socialist leader Felipe Gonzalez reacted defiantly to the planned coup and said no soldier had the right to interpret the people's will.

Communist leader Santiago Carrillo, a veteran of the 1936-39 civil war, said he was not surprised by the plot and added that it proved the military was still conspiring against democracy.

"I hope this time they get to the bottom of the conspiracy," he said.

The sources said the colonels' operation was code-named "Cervantes" after the author of the Spanish classic "Don Quixote" and appeared to have envisaged a simultaneous uprising throughout Spain on Oct. 27—the official "day of reflection" on the eve of elections when campaigning is halted to allow voters to consider their choices at the polls.

START talks to resume

WASHINGTON (R) — American officials say they believe strategic arms talks between the Soviet Union and the United States resuming in Geneva this week may make clear whether Moscow is serious about reducing nuclear arsenals.

Brushing aside recent Soviet verbal blasts as standard negotiating tactics, the U.S. officials said Moscow was using a two-pronged strategy — appearing businesslike and serious while waging a major public relations effort aimed at Western opinion, particularly in Europe.

The Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START), which resume on Wednesday, began on June 29 and recessed in August.

One high-ranking U.S. arms negotiator who asked not to be named said the Soviet Union probably had decided and wanted some kind of agreement.

The official rejected Soviet criticism that President Reagan's proposal for cuts focusing on long-range land-based missiles was one-sided.

He said the Reagan plan called for equal numbers of strategic missiles (850 on each side) and warheads (5,000).

While giving priority to land-based missiles, in which Moscow has a big advantage, Mr. Reagan's position was that "everything is on the table" at Geneva.

The U.S. chief arms control negotiator, Edward Rowny, said last week the Soviet team had displayed businesslike attitudes in Geneva, coming to the table ready to begin serious talks with a minimum of polemics.

At the same time, however, high Soviet officials have kept up a steady stream of public criticism of the U.S. negotiating stance, charging that the Reagan administration does not really want an agreement and is bent on sabotaging the talks.

U.S. officials said the Soviet propaganda campaign was aimed at the anti-nuclear movement, especially among America's West European allies, many of whom remain sceptical of Mr. Reagan's dedication to genuine arms control.

French officials argued that France could not snub a leader who was due to be the next chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

Political sources said the visit, Mr. Sekou Toure's first since he led his West African nation out of the French community and into Soviet orbit in 1958, was clearly an embarrassment to the Mitterrand administration.

During his election campaign, Mr. Mitterrand promised to end the kind of personal links forged by his predecessor, Valery Giscard d'Estaing, with leaders like self-proclaimed emperor Bokassa of Central Africa.

Mr. Mitterrand also said his administration would emphasise the defence of human rights in Third World nations.

Most of the Francophone countries in Africa were surprised when the Socialists won the French elections and they expressed immediate concern over

the change of leadership in Paris. But diplomats say developments since then indicate that political realities have forced the Mitterrand administration to modify some of its plans for reform.

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Falange role in massacre emerges

By Loren Jenkins

WASHINGTON — Christian militiamen moved into Palestinian refugee camps two weeks ago in accordance with an operational plan designed and approved by the highest military echelons of the late Bashir Gemayel's Falange Party, staff officers in his militia command, Lebanese government officials, members of the Lebanese army and police, and Western diplomats who have been following events in Lebanon with growing concern.

Nothing in the plan called for the wanton slaughter that occurred in the Shatila and Sabra camps once the militiamen had moved in. But well-informed sources now say, that plan did call for arrests, interrogations, and physical destruction of housing as part of a broader effort to spread terror among Lebanon's estimated 500,000 Palestinian refugees to encourage them to flee the country.

These sources have established

that the operation in the camp was carried out by 500 elite troops of the Lebanese forces, including members of the militia's special commando unit, its military police, and the intelligence security units.

Sources in the Lebanese Christian community said that the operation had been under the command of 28-year-old Elie Hobeika, one of the closest associates of Mr. Gemayel, who was leader of the Lebanese forces and President-elect at the time of his death.

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